



PATENT
03188-P0001A GSW/SBS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants	Geoffrey H. Gill, <i>et al.</i>
Application No. 09/515,724	Filing Date: 2/29/2000
Title of Application:	System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet
Confirmation No. 1108	Art Unit: 3624

MAILED
JUL 31 2006
U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Declaration of Inventors of Prior Invention Under 37 CFR §1.131

Geoffrey Gill declares as follows:

1. I am an inventor named in the above application.
2. I conceived of the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet of the above application at least as early as May 1999, including the subject matter of all pending claims in US Patent Application Serial No. 09/515,724.
3. I established a company entitled ICES, LLC at least in part for the marketing and furtherance of the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet. The company was incorporated on May 25, 1999 as a Delaware company as per the attached documents at A.
4. I had numerous discussions with Mr. Philip Klein regarding the development of the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet. Based on those discussions, Mr. Philip Klein sent me a write up of a description of

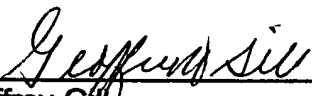
the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet in a facsimile dated July 23, 1999, which is attached at B.

5. I diligently worked on developing and perfecting our invention from at least July 1999 until the invention was constructively reduced to practice.
6. I provided a complete disclosure of the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet to my patent attorney at least as early as October 1999.
7. My patent attorney drafted an application for the System For Anonymously Purchasing Goods And Services Over The Internet over the holiday period from November 1999 through December 1999 for my review, editing and comments.
8. On or about December 17, 1999 a draft patent application was sent to me by Mr. J. Bradley Wright of SSJR.
9. Attached hereto at C is a copy of an email dated January 11, 2000 by which time I had already received, reviewed and edited the draft patent application.
10. My patent attorney revised the draft application to address my comments and provided me with a revised copy of the patent application no later than January 27, 2000.
11. Attached hereto at D is a copy of a letter dated January 27, 2000 from SSJR to me enclosing the revised patent application.
12. I provided further comments to the draft application in early February, which were incorporated into the application provided to me no later than February 15, 2000.
13. Attached hereto at E is a copy of a letter from SSJR to me dated February 15, 2000 enclosing the further revised patent application.
14. I constructively reduced my invention to practice no later than February 29, 2000 upon the filing of patent application serial number 09/515,724.
15. All statements in this Declaration made of my own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and beliefs are believed to be true.

16. I understand that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America, that the foregoing statements are true and correct.

July 21, 2006



Geoffrey Gill

31. 1- P8001A

Dominici, Danielle

From: Christine Barker [cbarker@soszlaw.com]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 4:28 PM
To: 'Winter, Gene S.'
Cc: Dominici, Danielle; Wright, J. Bradley
Subject: RE: Gill

The name of the Company is ICES, LLC

ICES, LLC

A Delaware Limited Liability Company formed on May 25, 1999

Mailing Address: c/o Geoffrey Gill
110 Willett Road
Saunderstown, RI 02874

Delaware Agent --- Corporation Service Company
1013 Centre Road
Wilmington, DE 19805

Thanks Danielle!

Regards, Christine Barker

-----Original Message-----

From: Winter, Gene S. [mailto:gsw@ssjr.com]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 3:48 PM
To: 'cbarker@soszlaw.com'
Cc: Dominici, Danielle; Wright, J. Bradley
Subject: Gill

I need the full details on his company--state of incorporation, address, full name. Can you fax or email this to me?

Our assistant, Danielle(dd@ssjr.com) will do the patent assignment between

Mr. Gill and the company. By copy of this email, I am requesting that she

get started on the assignment.

Brad Wright can give you the file.

Gene S. Winter
St. Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, CT 06511
203-324-6155 ex 206 phone
203-327-1096 fax
gsw@ssjr.com <mailto:gsw@ssjr.com>

JUL 23 '99 08:53AM

P.1

* Intro

We propose to provide a means for people to make anonymous payments on the Internet. There is a rapidly growing number of goods and services available for purchase on the World Wide Web, but the de facto standard payment method is credit card. We believe that many people now paying by credit card would prefer to use cash (or some anonymous cash substitute), and that, more importantly, many people who do not currently make purchases on the web would choose to do so if there were such an alternative available. The first organization to get its logo alongside those of Visa and Mastercard on numerous web sites, providing anonymous cash payments, would be able to tap this market.

The Market

The web has enabled many businesses that sell and deliver digital goods and services directly over the Internet: adult entertainment, gambling, on-line periodicals, music, multi-person games, classified ads, dating services. [Probably we can come up with lots more examples here. Investment advice? Horoscopes? Also, perhaps give example web site for each category. Maybe we could put together a table with estimated revenues for each of these markets.] However, the only payment methods available require a customer to reveal his identity to the merchant sites and his buying behavior to his credit-card company. Merchants and credit-card issuers will increasingly track the behavior of individual customers, buying and selling personal information about them. A substantial fraction of potential customers, we believe, would prefer to keep their shopping private. If there were a convenient method for making anonymous payments, these customers would use it.

Solution

We propose to provide an easy-to-use anonymous payment method. Customers would go to vendors (convenience stores, banks) and use actual cash to purchase digital cash in the form of numbers. Using a wallet program on their computers, they could then make payments on the web using this electronic cash. Neither the web merchants nor the electronic-cash issuer would be able to link these purchases to the customer's identity.

Strategy

Three parties are involved in a digital-cash transaction: the vendor, the web merchant, and the customer. A strategy must target each kind of party. First, web merchants must be recruited; we plan to start by approaching merchants who would stand to gain the most from an anonymous payment system, e.g. purveyors of adult entertainment on the web. We would offer them the chance to accept anonymous payments while paying us a rate lower than that charged by credit card-issuers, at least for the first year. We would provide software to them that would enable their web sites to accept these payments.

We would also need to recruit vendors, stores where customers could purchase digital cash. We would propose partnerships with some major chains such as Store 24, Seven-Eleven, and perhaps some large banks. We would offer to provide the equipment needed to issue digital cash. In return for their participation, we would offer an equity interest in the company.

JUL 23 '99 08:53AM

P.2

Finally, once the infrastructure is in place, we would advertise broadly to customers.

Revenue Stream Model

Like credit-card issuers, we would charge each merchant a percentage of all purchases made with digital cash; this is the primary source of revenue. A secondary source of revenue is the float; between the time when a customer purchases digital cash and when he spends it, we have use of the money he spent to purchase the digital cash.

Competition

Many companies have undertaken to provide digital payments on the web. The company that specifically sought to provide an anonymous payment method, DigiCash, has ceased operations. Cybercash is not currently offering any anonymous payment method. Millicent, a subsidiary of Compaq (inherited when Compaq acquired Digital), seeks to provide a payment system that is economical for very small payment amounts. They do not provide full anonymity (and indeed anonymity is not their goal). Compaq's degree of commitment to Millicent is unknown.

From: Gene S. Winter
Sent: Wednesday, January 12, 2000 9:01 AM
To: 'Marsha Greenstein'
Cc: J. Bradley Wright; Phyllis D. Spiegel
Subject: RE: from Philip Klein

We will edit the application and then mail it to you and Mr. Gill. We would prefer to expedite the handling of this but we do not have fax and/or email addresses to send the application to.

Gene S. Winter
St. Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC
986 Bedford Street
Stamford, CT 06905
203-324-6155 phone
203-327-1096 fax
gsw@ssjr.com email

-----Original Message-----

From: Marsha Greenstein [SMTP:MGreenstein@compuserve.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2000 10:09 PM
To: Gene Winter
Subject: from Philip Klein

Page 3, lines 23-25.

I'm not sure about this software for generating a personal identification code. Often the user chooses this code.

Also, the way I envision this working is as follows. The money code is encrypted using the personal identification code. Only the encrypted version (the ciphertext) is stored on the customer's computer.

Page 6, lines 26-28.

As we've discussed, the money code itself is not transmitted to the merchant; instead, numbers derived from the money card transmitted. This allows the money code to represent a (specified) number of individual bills. However, it may or may not be appropriate to discuss the scheme at that level of detail for this patent application; the extra idea is not essential to the overall process.

Page 8, 6-14.

Interesting. This is not something we've discussed. While I am not opposed to including it, it is not essential to the process.

Page 12, point 13. My understanding of this page is that you're talking about the system where the issuer gives the money code to the customer, and the customer takes it home and puts the code in his computer. However, point 13 is inconsistent with this.

When the merchant requests the money code, the program running on the customer's computer requests the personal identification code from the customer, and decrypts the money code using the personal identification code. If the wrong personal identification code is given, the money code ciphertext will be incorrectly decrypted, yielding an invalid money code.

If many attempts to spend the money are made, all with different wrong personal identification codes, the financial institution will suspect that someone is using the money code who is not authorized to do so, and will ask the merchant to inform the customer to contact the financial institution directly.

Page 5, lines 28-29.

"The issuer ... that permits the use [sic] credit cards."

This reference to credit cards is gratuitous. There is no need for credit cards here since the customer can pay in cash. In general, we needn't specify the method of payment.

January 27, 2000

Mr. Geoffrey H. Gill
110 Willett Road
Saunders Town, RI 028874

Mr. Phillip Klein
16 Edwin Street
Barrington, RI 02806

Re: SSJR File 3188-P0001A
SYSTEM FOR ANONYMOUSLY PURCHASING GOODS
AND SERVICES OVER THE INTERNET
Inventors: Geoffrey H. Gill and Philip Klein

Dear Geoff and Phil:

Enclosed is a revised draft of the patent application including the revisions you requested.

Please review it to ensure that it covers the invention. If either of you have any changes, please phone us or send us a copy of the application with your corrections, changes and/or additions. If both of you are satisfied with the application as presented, Geoff, please sign and forward the enclosed Declaration and Power of Attorney, Assignment (which has to be notarized) and Statement Claiming Small Entity Status form to Phil. Phil, upon receipt from Geoff, please sign and return the documents to us.

Sincerely,

Gene S. Winter
gsw@ssjr.com

GSW/JBW:jmc
Enclosures

file

St. Onge Steward Johnston & Reens LLC

986 Bedford Street
Stamford Connecticut 06905-5619
(203) 324 6155
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www.ssjr.com



February 15, 2000

Mr. Geoffrey H. Gill
110 Willett Road
Saunders Town, RI 02874

Mr. Philip Klein
16 Edwin Street
Barrington, RI 02806

Re: SSJR File 3188-P0001A
SYSTEM FOR ANONYMOUSLY PURCHASING GOODS
AND SERVICES OVER THE INTERNET
U.S. Patent Application
Inventors: Geoffrey H. Gill and Philip Klein

Dear Geoff and Philip:

Enclosed, for your review, is a revised draft of the patent application including the revisions you requested. Regarding the comments and revisions received from Philip, money is never presented to the merchant by the customer, only the money code or sub-codes. The merchant merely relays the codes to the financial institution for verification and the financial institution provides the merchant with funds. The derivation of multiple "sub-codes" has also been incorporated into the specification, as requested.

If either of you have any additional changes, please phone us or send us a copy of the application with your corrections, changes and/or additions. If both of you are satisfied with the application as presented, Geoff, please sign and forward the enclosed Declaration and Power of Attorney, Assignment (which must be notarized) and Statement Claiming Small Entity Status form to Philip. Philip, upon receipt from Geoff, please sign and return the documents to us.

Sincerely,

Gene S. Winter
gsw@ssjr.com

GSW/JBW:jmc
Enclosures

c: Christine Barker (w/ enclosures - Application and Drawings only)